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Beauty pageant cancelled for lack of participation

James Spall, president of Carbondale Pioneer Days, has announced the cancellation of the Miss Pioneer Days Pageant which was scheduled for August 22 at Carbondale Area High School.

"Despite the fact that Carbondale Pioneer Days and local merchants were putting up dozens of prizes and scholarships and savings bonds worth well over $1,000, local high school girls showed very little interest," said Spall. "This was a very successful and much-praised pageant last year and with the work being put into it by Kitty Golin, our chairman, and Allyn Benson this year's pageant would have topped last year. But to stage the pageant professionally, at least a dozen participants were needed. Only half that number entered by last week's deadline. Thus, we had no choice but to cancel it."

Spall said the pageant will be revived in 1983 with a number of changes -- including the possibility of opening it up to high school girls in neighboring school district. This year's pageant had been limited to Carbondale residents.

"We would like to express public thanks to all the merchants who pledged help and prizes, to Allyn Benson who had planned a super show, to the newspapers for their promotion, and to WCDL-WLSP radio and Mr. Noble Blackwell who once again came through with his help when we needed it. We also thank the six girls who entered and we hope they will show their enthusiasm and enter next year's pageant."